

January 20, 1948

## Mrs. Wm. Hopfner

Mrs. William Hopfner, a former resident of this city, passed away in Akron, Ohio, on Monday, Jan. 10, at the age of 74 years, seven months and seventeen days. She had been in failing health for several years and passed away just twenty days following the death of her husband.

Mrs. Mary Eske Hopfner was born near Watertown, Wis., on May 24th, 1873. Accompanied by her brother, Robert, she came to South Dakota in 1889, to make her home with her brother, Frank Eske, who had established a home on a farm near Verdon.

In 1895 she was married to William Hopfner and they lived on a farm near Randolph until 1917 when they retired and moved to Groton. In 1947 Mr. and Mrs. William Hopfner went to Akron, Ohio, to make their home with their nieces, Mabel Hopfner and Mrs. Margaret Luke.

Mrs. Hopfner was a loyal church worker and a member of St. John's Lutheran church and Ladeis' Aid. Like her husband, who was "Uncle Bill" to friend and the neighborhood children, she was "Aunt Mary" to all who knew her. She will always be remembered for her gracious hospitality and sincere willingness to help others.

The departed leaves to mourn her passing one sister, Mrs. Frank Hopfner of this city; two brothers, Robert Eske of Randolph and Carl Eske of Watertown, Wis.

Funeral services were held Friday afternoon, Jan. 14, at St. John's Lutheran church, with the Rev. J. E. Schwarting officiating. Mrs. Milton Thieman sang two solos, "Rock of Ages," and "Teach Me to Pray." Mrs. A. J. Schuelke presided at the organ. Interment was in Groton union cemetery.

Pallbearers were: Andrew Goodman, Chris. Jensen, Henry Lehman, Oscar Thieman, Emanuel Strom and Wm. H. Rock.

Relatives from a distance who attended the services included: Mrs. A. E. Luke, Akron, Ohio; Mrs. George Schuelke, Watertown, Wis.; Mrs. Alvin Timmel, Ixonia, Wis.; Carl Eske, Jr., Watertown, Wis., and Miss Rose Hopfner, Westchester, Ill.